

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
EA-12 FRB-01 INR-10 IO-14 NEA-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20
OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 /123 W
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R 141822Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7388

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USOECD

PASS EB/TA AND EUR/RPE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, OECD
SUBJECTL: POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT POLICIES: MEETING OF
TRADE COMMITTEE WORKING PARTY SEPTEMBER 26, 1978

REF: PARIS 28608

1. SECRETARIAT HAS CIRCULATED NOTE TC/WP(78)26
(COPIES SENT TO EB/TA AND EUR/RPE) SUGGESTING WAYS IN
WHICH TRADE COMMITTEE COULD INITIALLY FOLLOW UP ON
GENERAL ORIENTATIONS ON POSITIVE ADJUSTMENT ADOPTED BY
MINISTERS IN JUNE. IT IS PROPOSED TCWP HAVE FIRST
EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THIS QUESTION AT MEETING
SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 26 TO DISCUSS NOTIFICATION
PROCEDURES (SEE REFTEL). MISSION WILL NEED INSTRUCTIONS
FOR THAT MEETING.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF PORTION OF TC/WP(78)26
OUTLINING SECRETARIAT'S SUGGESTIONS:
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6. IN THE FIRST PLACE, STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT
QUESTIONS MIGHT BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION IN THE
REVIEW OF TRADE MEASURES NOTIFIED TO THE ORGANISATION.
FOR THIS PURPOSE, AS SUGGESTED IN TC/WP(78)25, ANNEX II,
, THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE NOTIFICATION
SHOULD, WHERE APPROPRIATE, INCLUDE NON-TRADE MEASURES
TAKEN AT THE SAME TIME, AND ESPECIALLY STRUCTURAL

ADJUSTMENT MEASURES. THE COUNCIL'S MANDATE WOULD IMPLY THAT THE REVIEW OF NOTIFICATIONS OF TRADE MEASURES SHOULD ALSO COVER THE STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT MEASURES TAKEN OR PLANNED, AND SHOULD DO SO IN LIGHT OF THE GENERAL ORIENTATIONS.

7. MIGHT NOT STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT MEASURES ALSO BE, IN CERTAIN CASES, THE SUBJECT OF INDEPENDENT REVIEWS, THAT IS TO SAY EVEN WHEN THEY ARE NOT ACCOMPANIED BY TRADE MEASURES?

IN THIS CONNECTION IT MAY BE RECALLED THAT THE TRADE COMMITTEE INTRODUCED IN 1976 THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSULTATION ON INTERNAL MEASURES WITH A POSSIBLE IMPACT ON TRADE (1).

(1) "THE COMMITTEE NOTED THAT, ON THE BASIS OF THE EXISTING PROCEDURES FOR CONSULTATION AND TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THEIR READINESS TO CO-OPERATE IN THE OECD, ITS MEMBERS WERE WILLING TO RESPOND AS POSITIVELY AS POSSIBLE TO REQUESTS THEY MAY RECEIVE FOR CONSULTATION ON INTERNAL MEASURES WHICH MAY HAVE AN IMPORTANT IMPACT ON THE TRADE OF A MEMBER COUNTRY THAT MAKES SUCH A REQUEST." (TC/M(76)1, ITEM 7)

END FOOTNOTE (1), CONTINUE PARA 7

THAT GENERAL HEADING COVERS, INTER ALIA, STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT MEASURES. HARDLY ANY USE HAS BEEN MADE

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OF THIS POSSIBILITY TO DATE. ALONG WITH OTHER REASONS, THE FACT THAT SUCH INTERNAL MEASURES ARE NOT TAKEN SYSTEMATICALLY INTO CONSIDERATION, SAY ON THE BASIS OF NOTIFICATIONS, AND THAT NO FORMAL PROCEDURE IS INVOLVED, PROBABLY EXPLAINS WHY THE AFOREMENTIONED POSSIBILITY HAS NOT BEEN USED.

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8. AT THIS STAGE IT MIGHT NOT BE APPROPRIATE TO ESTABLISH A MORE FORMAL PROCEDURE. ON THE OTHER HAND, MIGHT IT NOT BE CONSIDERED AS OF NOW TO MAKE THE POSSIBILITY THAT IS ALREADY OFFERED MORE OPERATIONAL, BY AGREEING ON THE IDEA OF ANALYTICAL REVIEWS AND EXCHANGE OF VIEWS CONCERNING SPECIFIC CASES OF STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT. THESE REVIEWS COULD BE CARRIED OUT ON REQUEST, OR MORE GENERALLY ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION COLLECTED INFORMALLY, SAY ACCORDING TO THE METHOD SUGGESTED IN TC/QP(78)25, PARAGRAPH 14. THE PERIODIC REVIEWS OF DEVELOPMENTS, TRENDS AND THE GENERAL CONTEXT OF TRADE POLICIES SUGGESTED IN SECTION D OF THE AFOREMENTIONED PAPER MIGHT COVER STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT QUESTIONS.

9. FINALLY, THERE IS REASON TO THINK THAT THE WORK DONE BY OTHER GROUPS OR COMMITTEES UNDER THE COUNCIL'S MANDATE, TO THE EXTENT THAT SUCH WORK DEALS DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH CERTAIN TRADE ASPECTS OF ADJUSTMENT POLICIES, MIGHT BE USEFUL TO THE TRADE COMMITTEE. THE COMMITTEE COULD ACQUAINT UNCLASSIFIED

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ITSELF WITH THE RESULTS OF THIS WORK AND MIGHT PERHAPS BE ABLE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION IN THE FORM OF COMMENTS. FURTHERMORE, THE BASIC DOCUMENTATION ASSEMBLED BY OTHER COMMITTEES COULD, IF APPROPRIATE, BE USED FOR A REVIEW OF ADJUSTMENT PROBLEMS AND POLICIES FROM THE TRADE ANGLE. END TEXT
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